

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, AR, US, (MUSICH, ARNALDO)

SUBJ: TEXT OF BUENOS AIRES HERALD EDITORIAL ON
AMBASSADOR MUSICH RESIGNATION

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE EDITORIAL OF SEP 20
FROM THE BUENOS AIRES HERALD ENTITLED "THE MESSAGE AND DR.
MUSCH":

QUOTE THE SHOCK RESIGNATION OF DR. ARNALDO MUSCH AS
AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES IS EXTREMELY DISQUIETING.
HE GAVE NO EXPLANATION OTHER THAN "PERSONAL REASONS"-
A DIPLOMATIC PHRASE WHICH IN THIS KIND OF CENTEXT USUALLY
MEANS A CLASH OVER PRINCIPLES. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY DID
NOT GO INTO DETAILS EITHER. SO THOSE "PERSONAL REASONS"
ARE GOING TO BE THE SUBJECT OF MUCH SPECULATION. ONE
NEWSPAPER YESTERDAY REPORTED THAT DR. MUSICH HAD RESIGNED
BECAUSE THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OBJECTED TO THE FACT THAT HE
HAD A MEETING WITH FATHER WEEKS, THE U.S. PRIEST WHO WAS
ARRESTED IN CORDOBA IN CONNECTION WITH ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT
IN SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES AND WHO LEFT THE COUNTRY AFTER
THE U.S. EMBASSY INTERVENED. IT WAS NEVER MADE CLEAR
WHETHER THE PRIEST WAS ACTUALLY EXPELLED OR NOT.

THE HERALD CONNECTED DR. MUSICH'S RESIGNATION WITH THE
EXPLOSIVE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, POINTING OUT THAT DR.
MUSICH HAS BEEN UNDER TREMENDOUS PRESSURE IN THE U.S. FROM
GROUPS DEMANDING AN EXPLANATION OF "UNORTHODOX" METHODS
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APPARENTLY EMPLOYED BY THE SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS AND

SEEKING CONCRETE ACTIONS TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS HERE.

GIVEN THE DELICACY OF THE MATTER WE MAY NEVER KNOW WHETHER THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROMPTED DR. MUNISCH'S RESIGNATION. WHAT WE DO KNOW IS THAT IT IS A BURNING QUESTION IN THE U.S. AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE IMPORTANT. IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT IT WILL BECOME A MAJOR ISSUE IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

IT IS VERY NECESSARY, THEREFORE, TO ENSURE THAT DR. MUSICH'S REPLACEMENT IS THE KIND OF MAN WHO WILL BE ABLE TO TRANSMIT THIS MESSAGE OT THE ARGENTINA GOVERNMENT. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER DR. MUSICH FAILED OR SUCCEEDED IN GETTING THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO REALIZE JUST HOW IMPORTANT ITS RECORD ON HUMAN RIGHTS IS IN ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. BUT WE DO KONW THAT DR. MUSICH IS WELL AWARE OF ITS IMPOR- TANCE. HE SEEMED, WHEN APPOINTED, THE IDEAL MAN FOR THE JOB - A CIVILIZED, HUMANE AND EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT MAN WITH CONSIDERABLE DIPLOMATIC EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE U.S.

IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE WHO IS APPOINTED IN HIS STEAD.

THE CHOISE OF A NEW MAN WILL TELL US WHETHER THE GOVER- NMENT HAS GOT DR. MUSICH'S MESSAGE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS OR NOT. WE NEED A MAN TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION IN ARGENTINA IN TERMS THAT THE AMERICANS WILL UNDERSTAND. IT CALLS FOR THE DELICACY, TACT, SYMPATHY AND EXPERIENCE THAT DR. MUSICH VERY EVIDENTLY HAS. HIS RESIGNATION IS A LOSS. THE RIGHT MAN MUST BE FOUND - AND SOON - TO TAKE HIS PLACE. END QUOTE.

HILL

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